SELECT VIEWS

OF THE

REMAINS OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN GREECE,

AS AT PRESENT EXISTING,

From Brawings Taken and Coloured on the Spot

IN THE YEAR 1833.

BY

WILLIAM COLE, ARCHITECT.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR,
BY ACKERMANN AND CO.

1835.

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PREFACE.

The Drawings now offered to the Public are a selection from a number of sketches made under peculiarly favourable circumstances, during a professional tour in 1833. By the devastation consequent upon the struggle of the Greeks for liberty, all the rude buildings which had for centuries deformed and obscured the noble relics of ancient art were removed, and thus an opportunity was afforded of examining their proportions and appreciating their beauties. The author was so fortunate as to arrive at Athens in May, just after the Turks had evacuated the town. The Parthenon, the Erectheum, the Temple of the Winds, and the Coragic Monument of Lysicrates, without one intervening fragment to obstruct the view, were relieved against the clear sky in isolated majesty and beauty, amidst the records of destruction from which they had been almost miraculously preserved; and the Acropolis, as seen from the remaining columns of the Temple of Jupiter, formed a coup d'ail that cannot be described. Careful Drawings, with the greatest attention to accuracy of proportion and colour, were made from almost every point of view; and it is presumed that they will acquire an additional interest when the Public are informed that, before the author left Greece, many of the most striking views were again obstructed, by buildings being erected upon the foundations of the former houses. The Drawings, consequently, give a representation of the relics of ancient art as they were seen but for a short time by few persons.

No liberty or license has been taken with the Views, for the sake of picturesque effect; but the closest adherence to truth has been observed, as to form, proportion, and the peculiar colour given to the marble by age.

The author hopes he may be pardoned for attempting to give a further interest to the Drawings by a brief historical account of each subject, and for extracting from ancient and modern authors, who have written upon these monuments, any information respecting them, whether as it regards dates, or explaining the object and purpose for which they were erected.

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR,

M.P. FOR THE CITY OF CHESTER,

&c. &c. &c.

THESE

SELECT VIEWS

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Remains of Ancient Monuments in Greece,

BY WHOM THEIR CLASSIC PROPORTIONS HAVE BEEN EXAMINED
ON THE SPOT,

Are, with Permission,

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY HIS LORDSHIP'S FAITHFUL AND MOST OBLIGED SERVANT,

WILLIAM COLE.

Chester and Birkenhead, September 1835.

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THE CORAGIC MONUMENT OF LYSICRATES,

ATHENS.

The remains of this small, but exquisitely proportioned, monument of antiquity, stands near the eastern end of the Acropolis. It was found by Stuart, and other more recent travellers, half buried in the walls of a monastery belonging to the Capuchins; which circumstance destroyed its symmetry and hid its details. During the revolution the monastery had been pulled down, and a few broken ruins only marked the site.

This monument is supposed to have been erected by Lysicrates, in honour of a victory gained by him at one of the public festivals; and from an inscription upon the architrave, copied by Stuart, we have the following translation:—

" Lysicrates, of Kikyna, the son of Lysitheides, was Choragus."

"The tribe of Akamantis obtained the victory in the chorus of boys. Theon was the performer on the flute."

"Lysiades, an Athenian, was the teacher of the chorus. Evaenetus was Archon."

Hence it appears that this building was erected 330 years before the Christian era, in the time of Demosthenes, Apelles, Lysippus, and Alexander the Great.

This building, executed in white marble, consists of a quadrangular base, which, though isolated from the surrounding ground, was, as seen in the drawing, half hid below the surface.

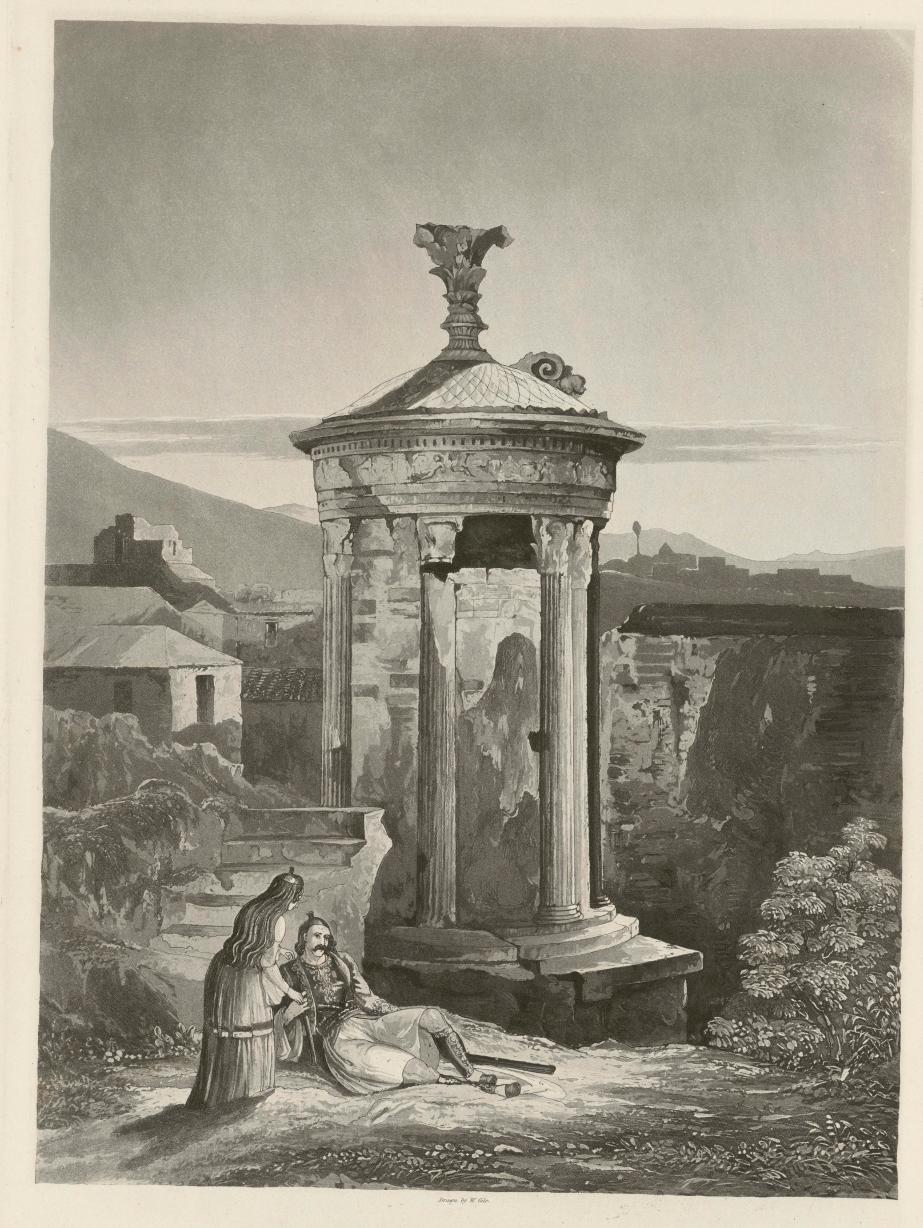
The base supports a circular colonnade, and the spaces between the columns were filled in with panels of white marble. Between the capitals of the columns, directly under the architrave, tripods were sculptured in basso relievo.

Upon the architrave was cut the inscription before mentioned; and round the frieze was represented, in basso relievo, the story of Bacchus and the Tyrrhenian pirates, the subject of the chorus performed.

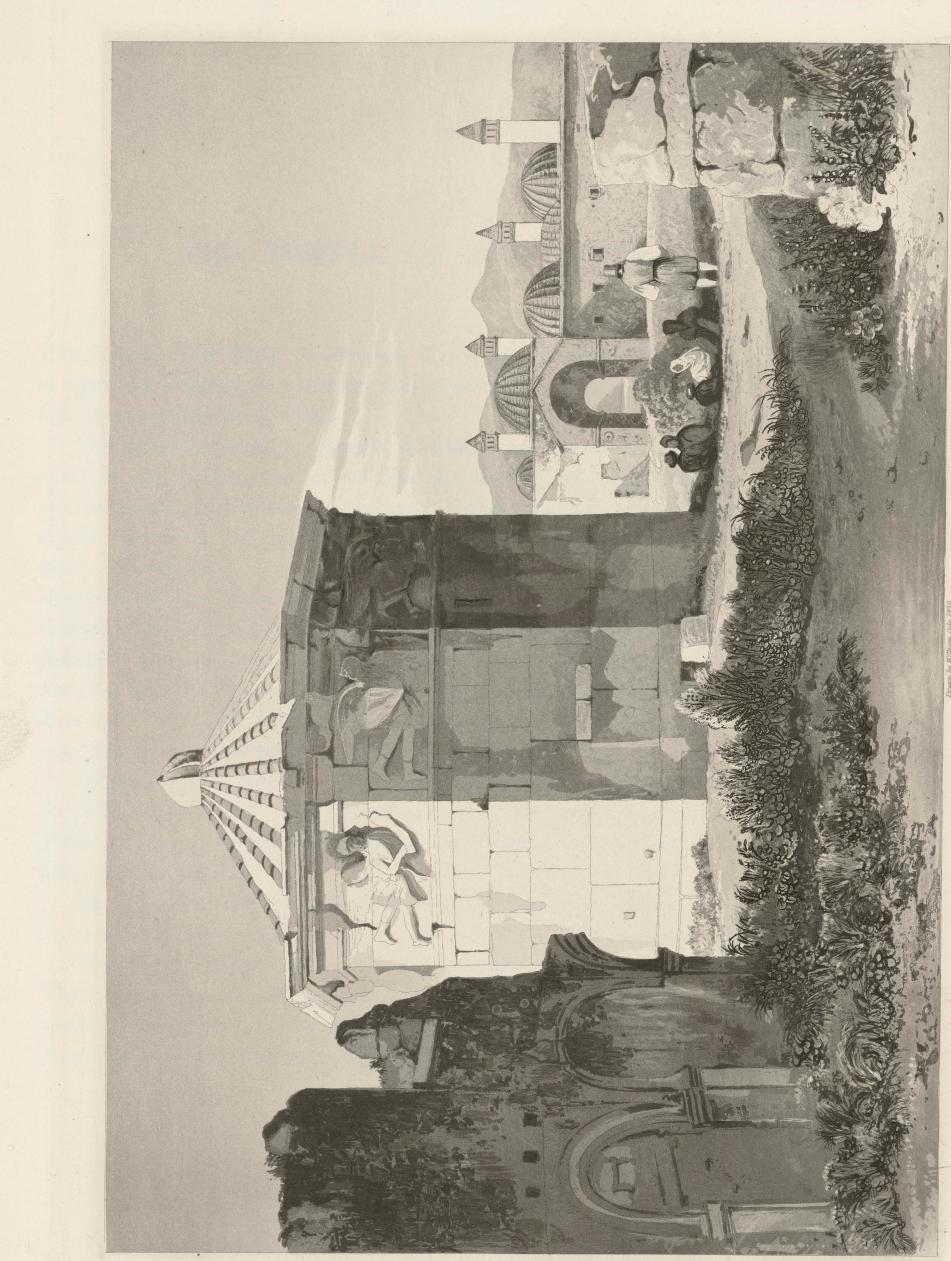
The cupola is of one entire piece, wrought with much delicacy; and the ornament upon the top supported a tripod, the prize obtained.

The diameter of the colonnade is seven feet; and the height, including the square base, thirty-four feet.

To the left of the monument is the foot of Mount Anchesmus; and to the right, a distant View of Mount Pentelicus.



THE CHORAGIC MONUMENT OF LYSICRATES, ATHEMS



Drawn by William Cote 1830. TEMPLE OF THE WINDS, ATHENS.

THE TEMPLE OF THE WINDS.

THE Temple of the Winds, or Octagon Tower of Andronicus Cyrrhestes, called so upon the authority of Vitruvius, and is described in the sixth chapter of his first book treating upon winds.

This octagonal building, executed in white marble, is situate near the ancient agora, or market-place, and, at the time the drawing was made, stood free from any surrounding obstruction of buildings; but the accumulated earth above the original pavement half buried its height. Upon each side of the octagon are pieces of sculpture, executed in bold relief, which ingeniously express the characters of the winds they are intended to represent. The figures have suffered much mutilation, and the mouldings of the cornice are a good deal defaced. The roof, which was once covered with white marble in the form of tiles, has been broken, and repaired with coarser materials. Under each figure dials were constructed for pointing out the hour of the day, and the tower was supposed to contain in the interior a clypsydra, or water-clock.

Originally there were two doors to this building; one remains totally closed up and concealed; the other on the north-east side was in part opened by the Turks for the admission of the Dervises, who performed their ceremony of the dance in this building.

The height of the tower from the original foundations measures forty-four feet, and the width or diameter to the outside of the walls twenty-four feet.

This View is taken looking directly from the north side of the Acropolis. The buildings to the left are the remains of a house that once obscured this beautiful monument. A Turkish bath is seen to the right, and the figures appear as they were seen at the time the sketch was made.

THE TEMPLE OF THE WINDS.

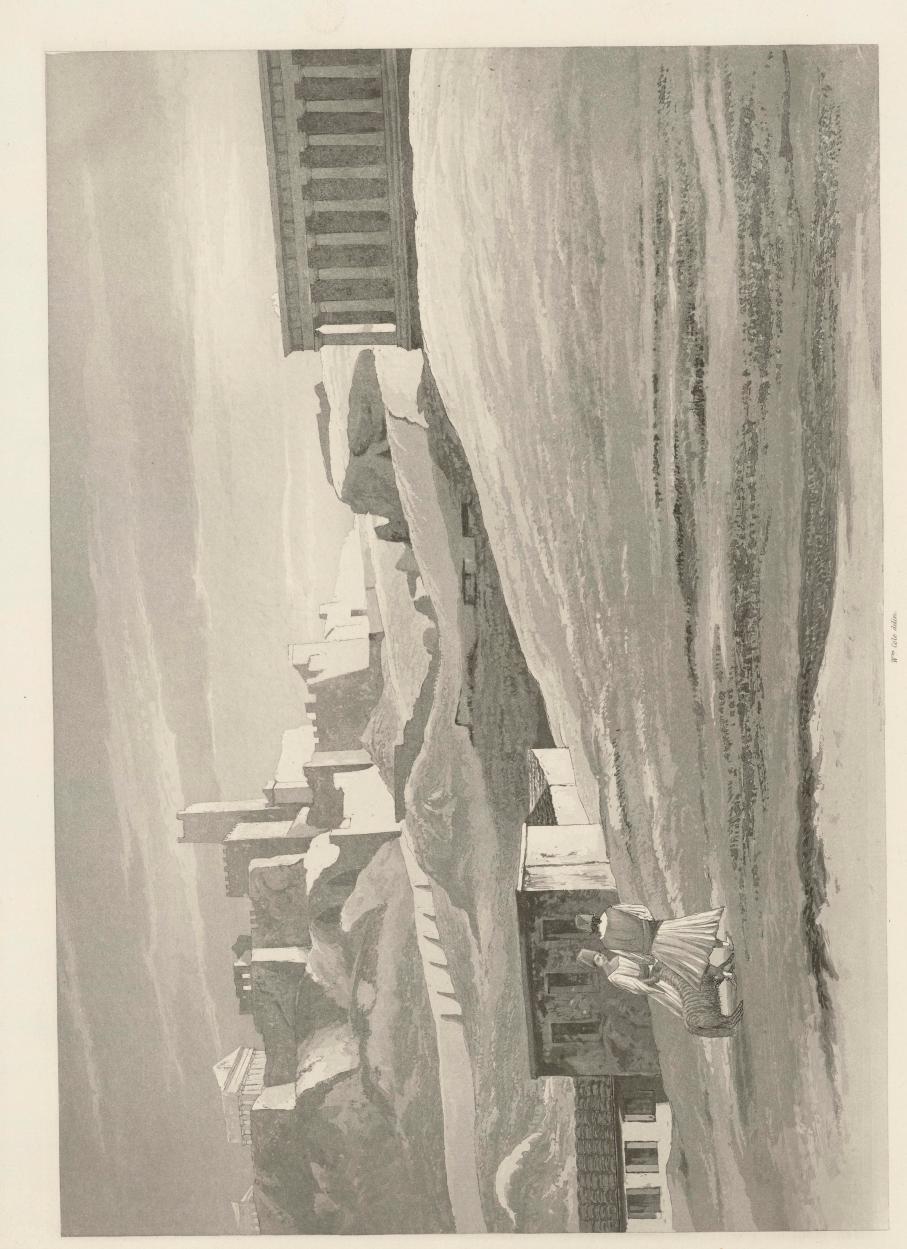
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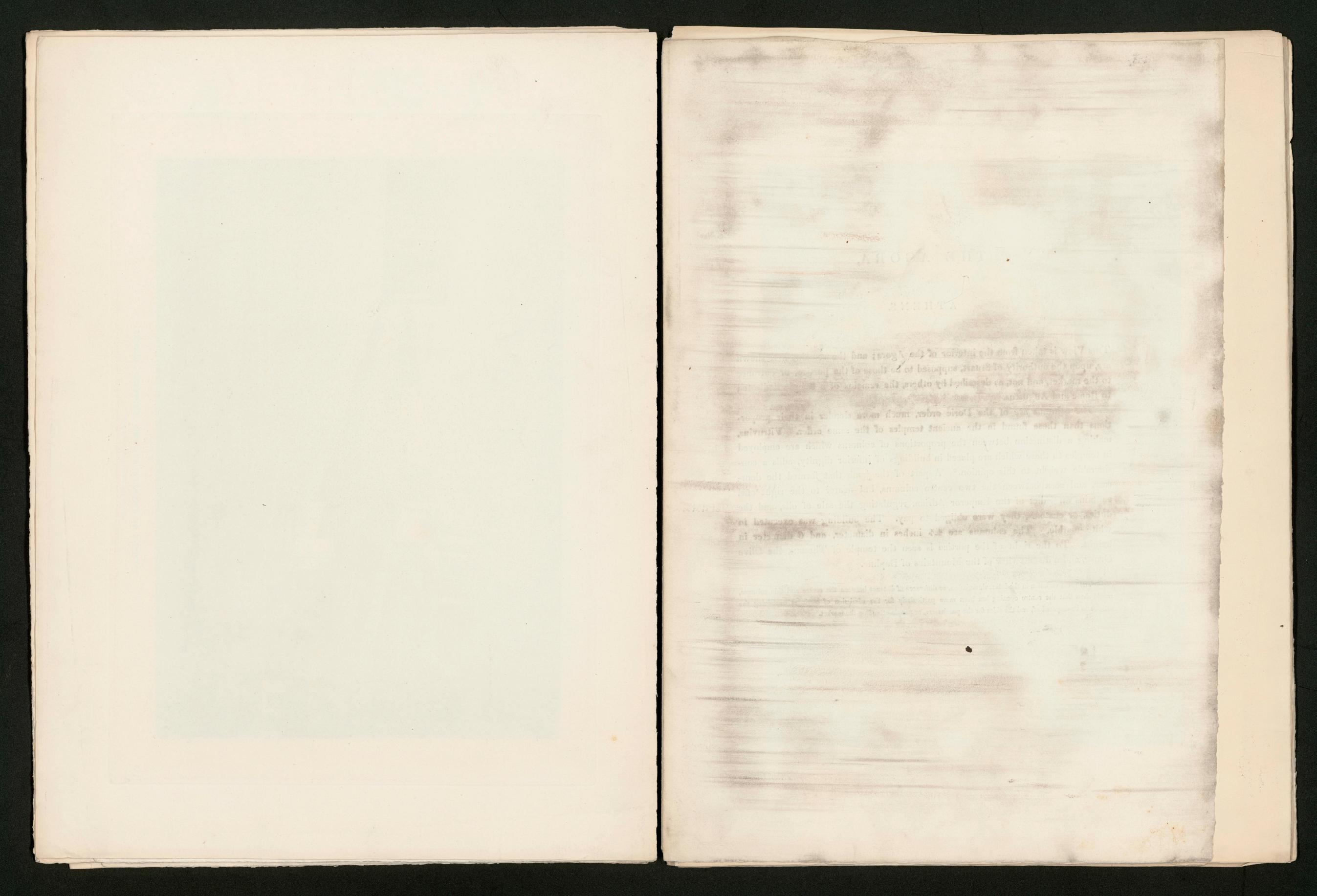
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TEMERIE OF THE SEUS AND THE ACROPOLIS ATHENS.

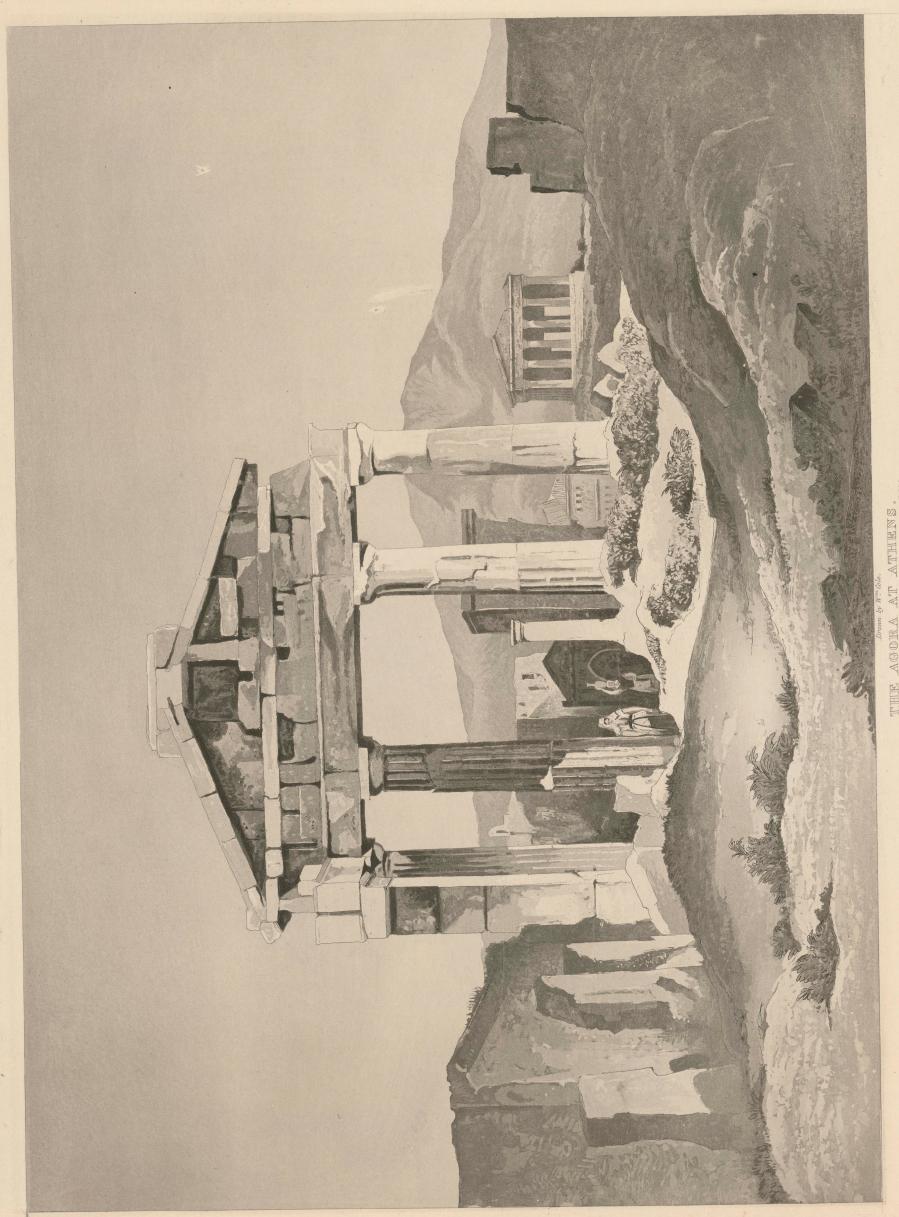


THE AGORA,

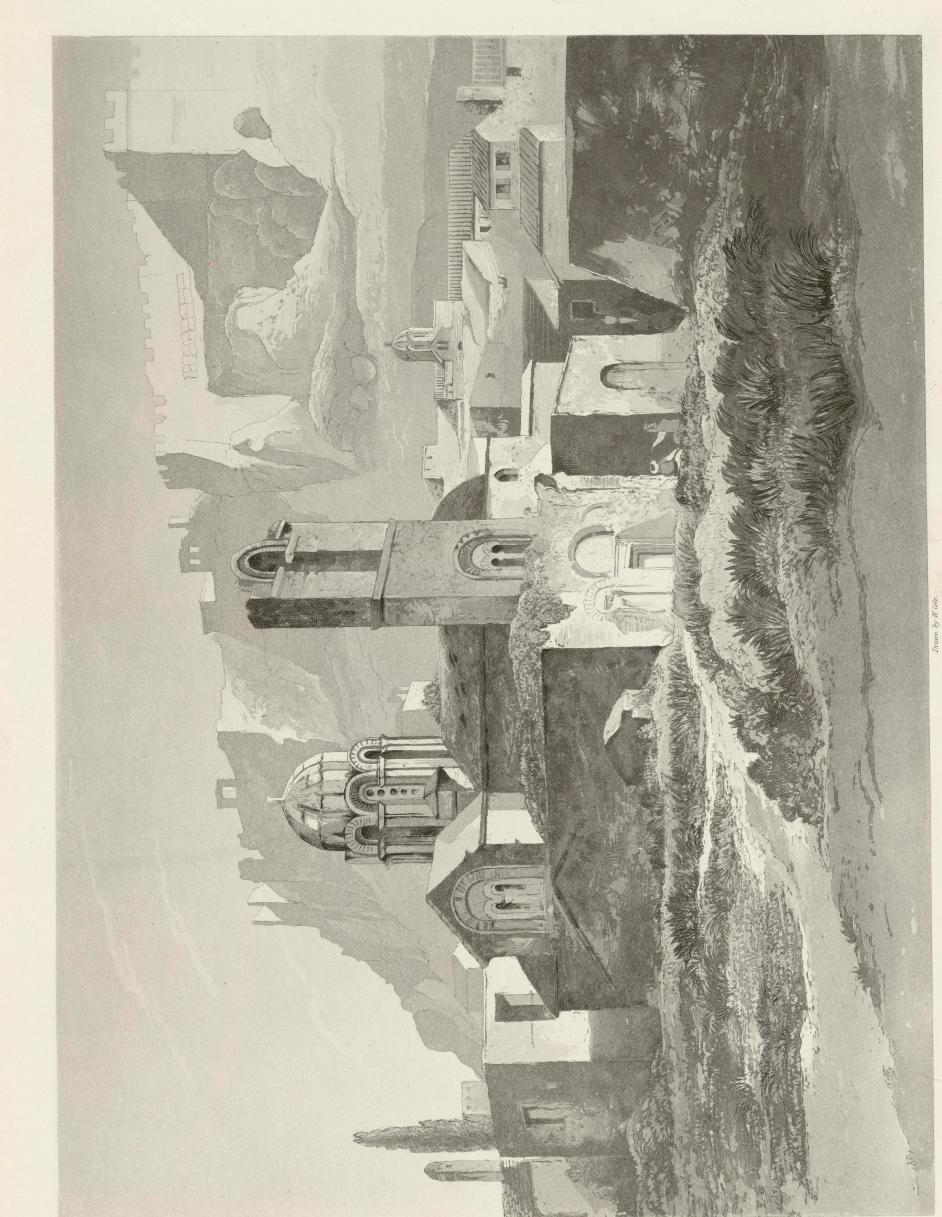
ATHENS.

This View is taken from the interior of the Agora; and the remains here shewn are, upon the authority of Stuart, supposed to be those of the portico, or entrance to the market, and not, as described by others, the remains of a temple dedicated to Rome and Augustus.

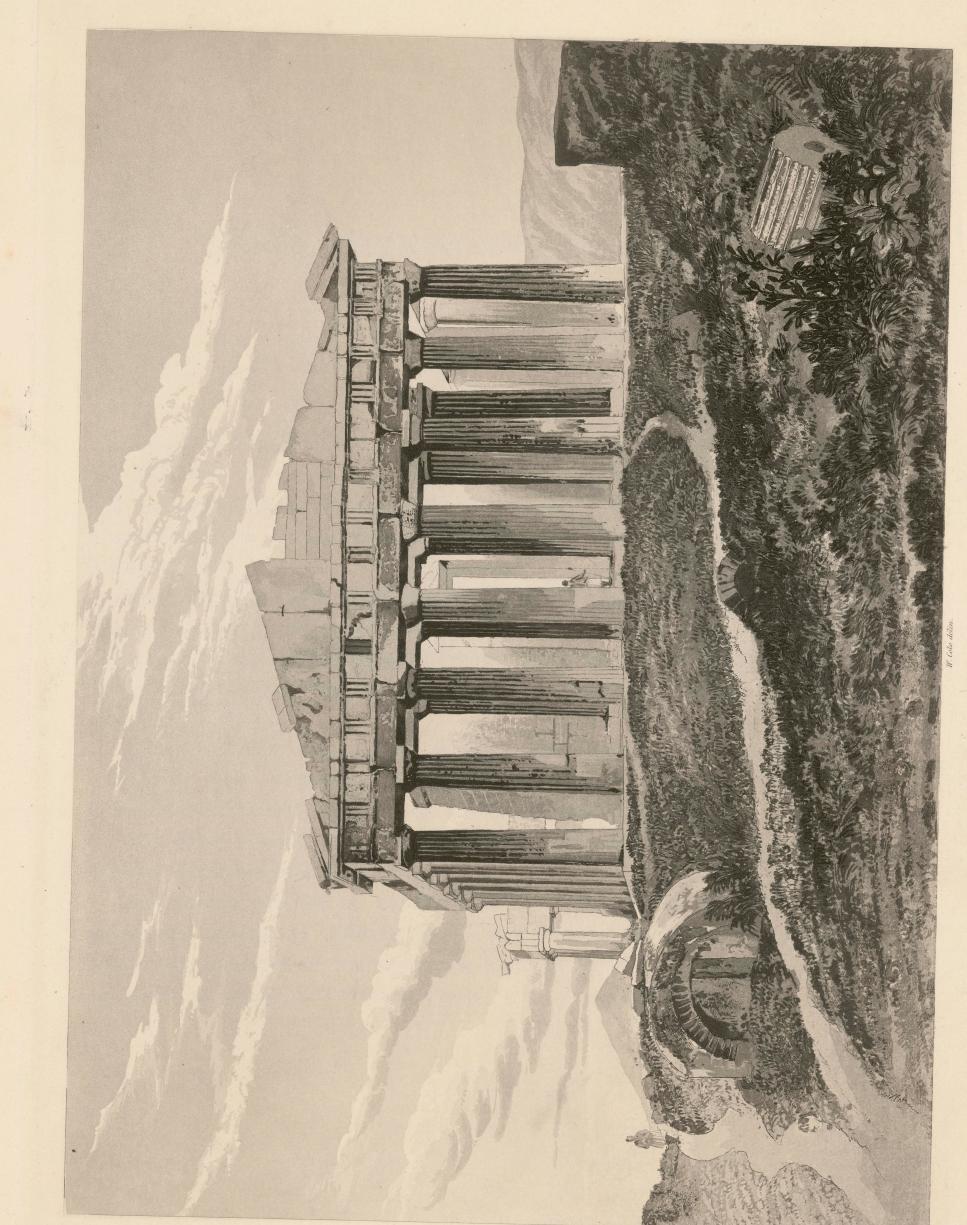
The columns are of the Doric order, much more slender in their proportions than those found in the ancient temples of the same order. Vitruvius, making a distinction between the proportions of columns which are employed in temples to those which are placed in buildings of inferior dignity, adds a considerable weight to this opinion.* A part of the jamb that formed the doorcase, and seen between the two centre columns, but nearer to the right one, contains an Edict of the Emperor Adrian, regulating the sale of oils, and the duties, or customs, they were obliged to pay. The building was executed in white marble. The columns are 4.4 inches in diameter, and 6 diameter in height. To the right of the portico is seen the temple of Theseus, the Olive Grove, and a distant view of the Mountains of Daphne.



^{*} The great variation in the intercolumniation, or difference of distance between the centre and side columns, would shew that the centre opening has been more particularly for the admission of carriages containing the articles to be disposed of, and the sides for the purchasers, or people attending the market.



GREEK CHURCH AND ACROPOLIS, ATHENS, London, Published for the Proprietor, by Ackermann & C? 15'August 1835.



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WEST HIND OF THE PARTHENON.

London Published for the Proprietor, by Advermann & Co. 1st August 1835.

GREEK CHURCH AND ACROPOLIS,

ATHENS.

The Acropolis is built upon an isolated piece of rock, nearly 150 feet in height, and from 900 to 1000 feet in length. The rock is on every side a precipice, and accessible only at one entrance to the west. The summit is fortified by a wall built on its extreme edge, encompassing the whole upper surface, which is nearly level.

The natural strength of its situation is said to have induced the first inhabitants to settle there; and when, in process of time, their numbers increased, they began to build on the adjacent ground below, till at length the Acropolis, being surrounded on every side, became the fortress of a large and populous city.

Here stood their most ancient temples; the Panathenaic festival was here celebrated; their archives and their public treasure were deposited here; and it was on these accounts esteemed the most sacred part of the city.

This View is taken looking upon the north side of the Acropolis, near the remains of a Greek church.

The temples are hid by the fortifications. These fortifications have been raised and repaired at different times, upon the foundations of the original walls, with fragments of masonry taken from the ruins of the ancient temples and buildings, which gives them an uncouth and ruinous appearance.

*

TEMPLE OF THE SEUS, AREOPAGUS, AND WEST END OF THE ACROPOLIS.

The Turks, in erecting fortifications for the protection of the entrance into the citadel, have built up the famous Propylea, and prevented the remains of this celebrated building from being visible.

The View is taken from the foot of the hill upon which the Temple of Theseus is situate, and part of the Temple is seen.

The high ground adjoining the Temple is the Areopagus, or the Hill of Mars, upon which was held the celebrated tribunal of Athens. It was upon this Hill of Mars that St. Paul defended himself against the then philosophers of Athens.

WEST FRONT OF THE PARTHENON.

This temple, styled the Temple of Minerva Parthenon, was built during the administration of Pericles, under the immediate superintendence of Phidias.

It has been celebrated by some of the most eminent writers of antiquity, whose accounts are confirmed and illustrated in the description given by those travellers who saw it entire. Sir George Wheler and Dr. Spon, who visited Athens in 1672, were amongst the latter of these; and the following is extracted from Wheler's description of the temple:—

"It is situate about the middle of the citadel, and is executed in white Pentelic marble. The plane of it is twice as long as it is broad, being 217 feet 9 inches long, and 98 feet 6 inches wide. It hath an ascent of five degrees or steps; upon these are placed pillars of the Doric order, forty-six in number, 34 feet high, and $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet about."

According to this traveller's account, the tympanum of the pediment contained figures in full relief. The metopes were enriched with sculpture, representing the combat between the Centaurs and the Lapithæ, superior to any work executed in ancient or modern art, and the outside of the cell was surrounded at the top with a continued frieze in basso relievo, representing the Panathenaic procession.

In 1687, when Athens was besieged by the Venetians, an unfortunate bomb, bursting through the roof, fired a powder-magazine situated in the interior, when this magnificent work of art, which had existed entire for near two thousand years, and served alike as a place of worship for Heathen, Christian, and Turk, was in an instant reduced to a ruin.

The parts that escaped destruction have since suffered by depredation and assault. The sculptures that remained, and were upon the temple during the time that Stuart and Revet visited Athens, have been torn down and transported to a foreign clime. A small portion of the inner frieze still remains in the western front. Judging from these, how exquisite must have been this continued line of interesting sculpture which represented the splendid Panathenaic procession; and, when entire, continued all round the wall of the temple, would have measured at least 520 feet! During the late revolution, the Turks bombarded the Acropolis from the hill of the Museum, and, firing upon this temple, have broken most of the capitals of the columns, and defaced the shafts of this front in particular. It is surprising to see how the column forming the south-west angle resisted their repeated efforts to destroy it. The intention of the Turks was to bring down the remainder of the temple upon the Greeks, who were then in possession of the fortress, and had taken refuge in the interior of the ruin.

The way to the Acropolis lies through modern fortifications. The Propylea are miserably ruined, and the openings between the remaining columns walled up. The Parthenon does not become visible until these ruins are passed; when the temple bursts upon the sight within the distance of two hundred feet. Even in its present state, the grandeur and magnificence of its appearance far surpass any preconceived idea.

This View is taken from an elevated part of the fortress, directly over the entrance, where the temple first came into sight.

WEST PRONT OF THE PARTHENON.

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" It is situate about the middle of the citadel, and is executed in white Pentelle mathle. The plane of it is fived as it is broad, being 217 feet 0 inches long, and 58 feet 6 inches wide. It lasts an ascent of five degrees or steps; upon these are placed pillers of the Doric order, forty-six in camber, 34 feet high, and 174 feet.

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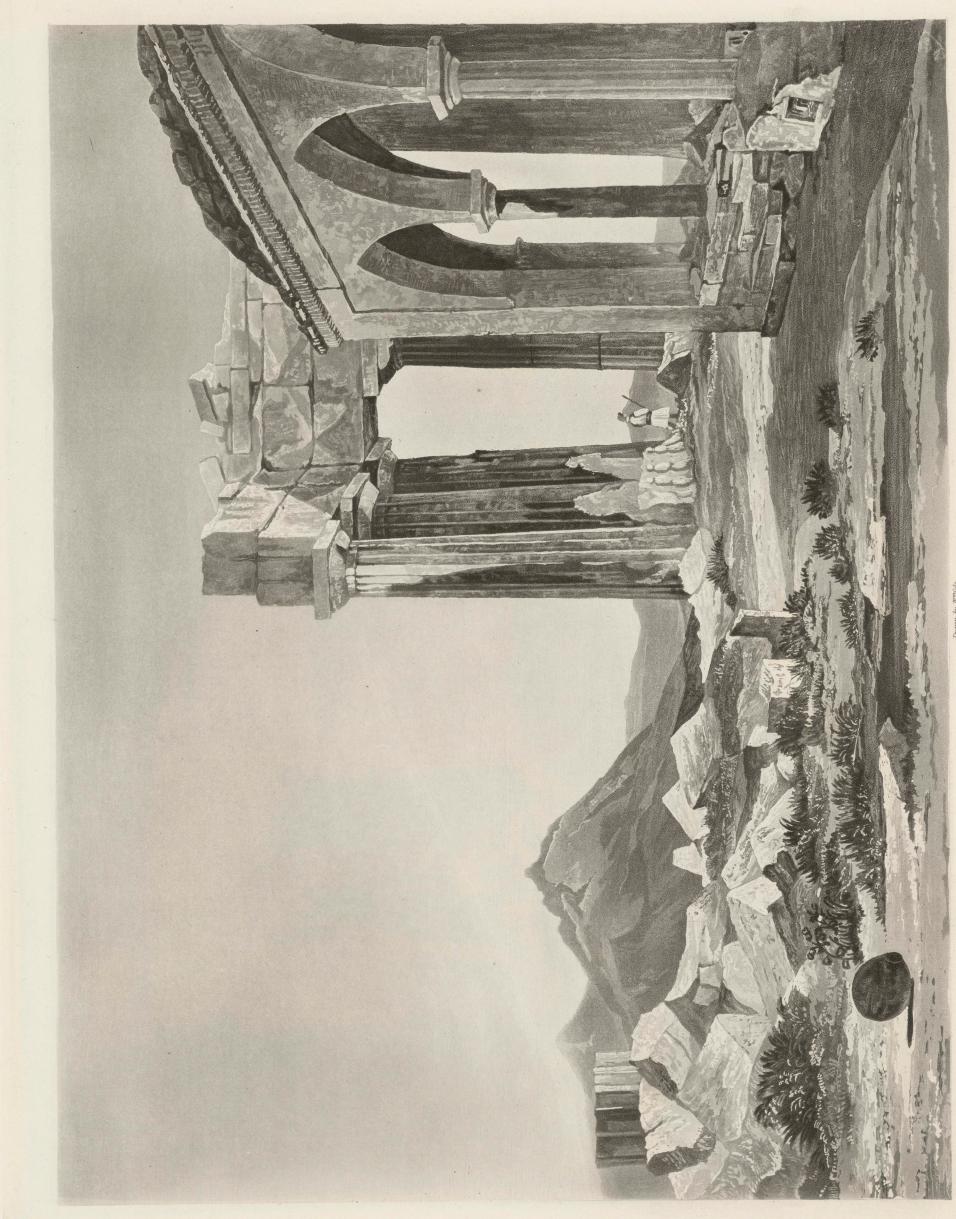
RUINS OF THE PARTHENON, LOOKING TOWARDS THE ANCHESMUS.

The principal entrance to the Parthenon was at the eastern front, the columns of the portico stood upon pavement relieved by three steps above the ground, and there were two more from the portico to the pronaus. The pronaus led to that division of the temple called the cell, round the interior of which was a colonnade supporting a roof, which sheltered a great part of the area.

In this division stood the famous statue of Minerva, of ivory and gold, the work of Phidias: Pausanias says, its position was erect, with a garment reaching to the feet; she had a helmet on, and a Medusa's head on her breast; in one hand she held a spear, and on the other stood a Victory, of about four cubits high. Pliny tells us the statue was twenty-six cubits high, in which, perhaps, he included the pedestal, whereon, they both say, the birth of Pandora was represented. The cell was separated by a cross wall from the opisthodomus, where the public treasure was kept, and leading from this last was the posticum and west portico of the temple.

The Drawing, taken from the interior of the temple, looking towards the eastern portico, shews a part of the ravage caused by the firing of the powder magazine. The mountain seen in the opening is the Anchesmus, called so from a temple having been erected upon its summit dedicated to Jupiter Anchesmus.

The shell was in the foreground, as represented: fragments in heaps were seen lying around; and shells thrown upon the temple during the late bombardment, had caused additional destruction to this noble ruin.



THE PARTHENON LOOKING TOWNS THE ANCHESMUS, ATHENS.



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RUINS OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PARTHENON.

RUINS OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PARTHENON.

Of the side columns of the temple fourteen were destroyed by the explosion; the cornice was thrown down from the situation it had occupied, and fragments still lie scattered upon the ground underneath.

In this View is seen the havor made in the north side. The distant mountains are in the island of Salamis, and the gulf is seen that leads to the bay of the once celebrated Eleusis. A solemn procession was made by the people of Athens, every fifth year, along the Sacred Way leading from Athens to the temples at Eleusis, to celebrate the mysteries. The festival was in honour of Ceres and Proserpine. These religious ceremonies were so superstitiously observed, that he who dared to divulge them suffered an ignominious death.

The tower erected by the Turks upon a part of the ruins of the propylea, has an interest given to it by the death of the celebrated Greek chieftain, the Ulysses of our times. In this tower Ulysses was confined, after delivering himself up to the confederates. It is said, that having a wish to destroy him, but not daring to do so publicly, they employed a secret agent, his pretended friend, and by this person's persuasion Ulysses was induced to attempt his escape through a window, by means of a rope-ladder. The ladder provided for the purpose was rendered insecure, and his destruction inevitably followed. Ulysses, confidently trusting in his false friend, commenced his descent, when the rope broke, and the unfortunate hero was bruised to death in the fall.

A part of the ladder was still remaining, attached to the window, when the sketch was taken.

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TEMPLES OF ERECTHEUS, MINERVA POLIAS, AND PANDROSOS.

To the north of the Parthenon, at the distance of about one hundred and fifty feet, are the remains of three contiguous temples. That towards the east was called the Erectheum; to the westward of this, but under the same roof, was the Temple of Minerva, with the title of Polias, as protectress of the city; adjoining to which, on the south side, is the Pandrosium, so named because it was dedicated to Pandrosos, one of the daughters of Cecrops.

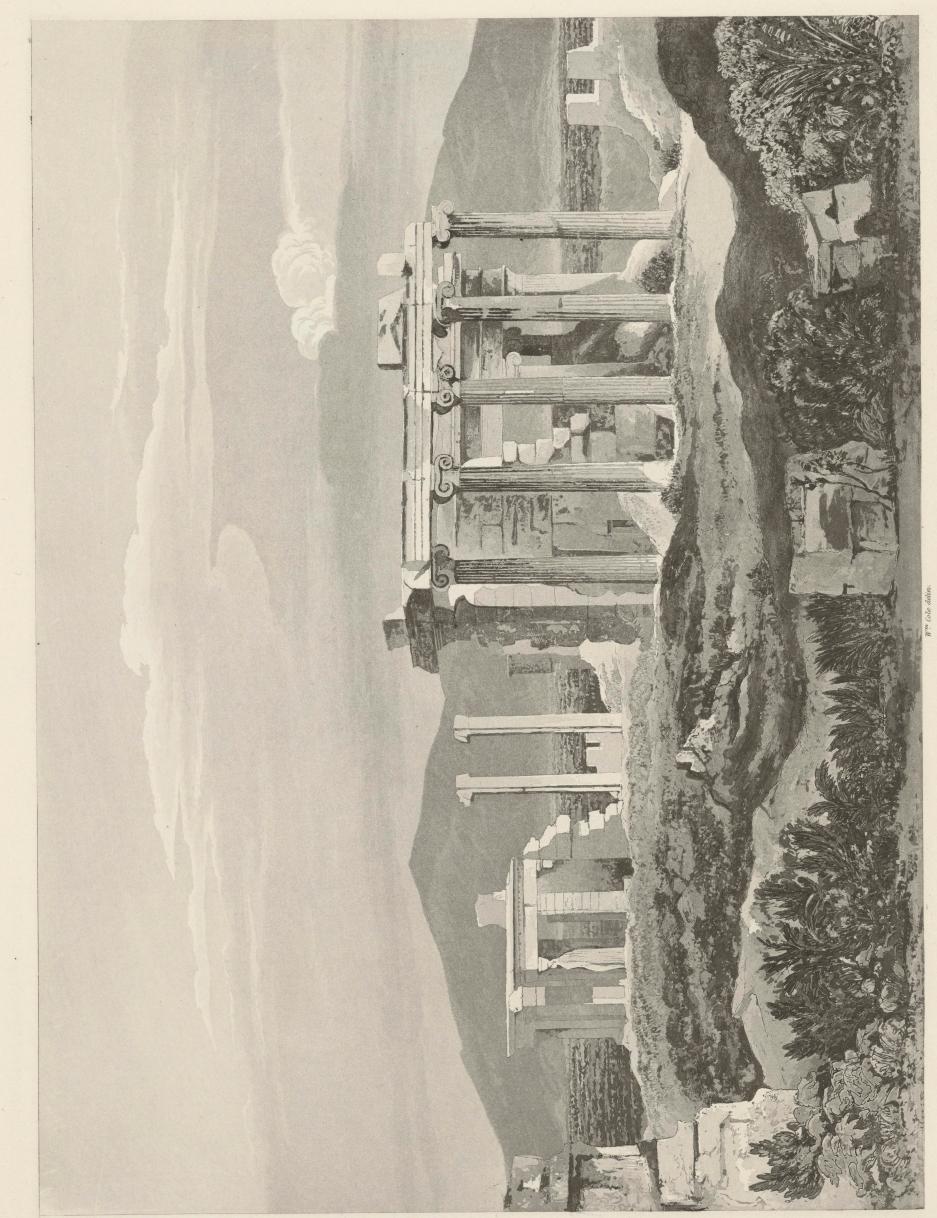
Pausanias tells us, in the Erectheum was the spring of sea water produced by the stroke of Neptune's trident, when he contended with Minerva for the patronage of the city.

The Temple of Minerva Polias contained the ancient statue of the goddess, said to have fallen from heaven. Here, likewise, was the golden lamp made by Callimachus, who invented the Corinthian capital: it was said to burn during all the year, without fresh supplies of oil. This lamp was placed under a brazen palm-tree, the branches of which extended up to the roof and conveyed away the smoke.

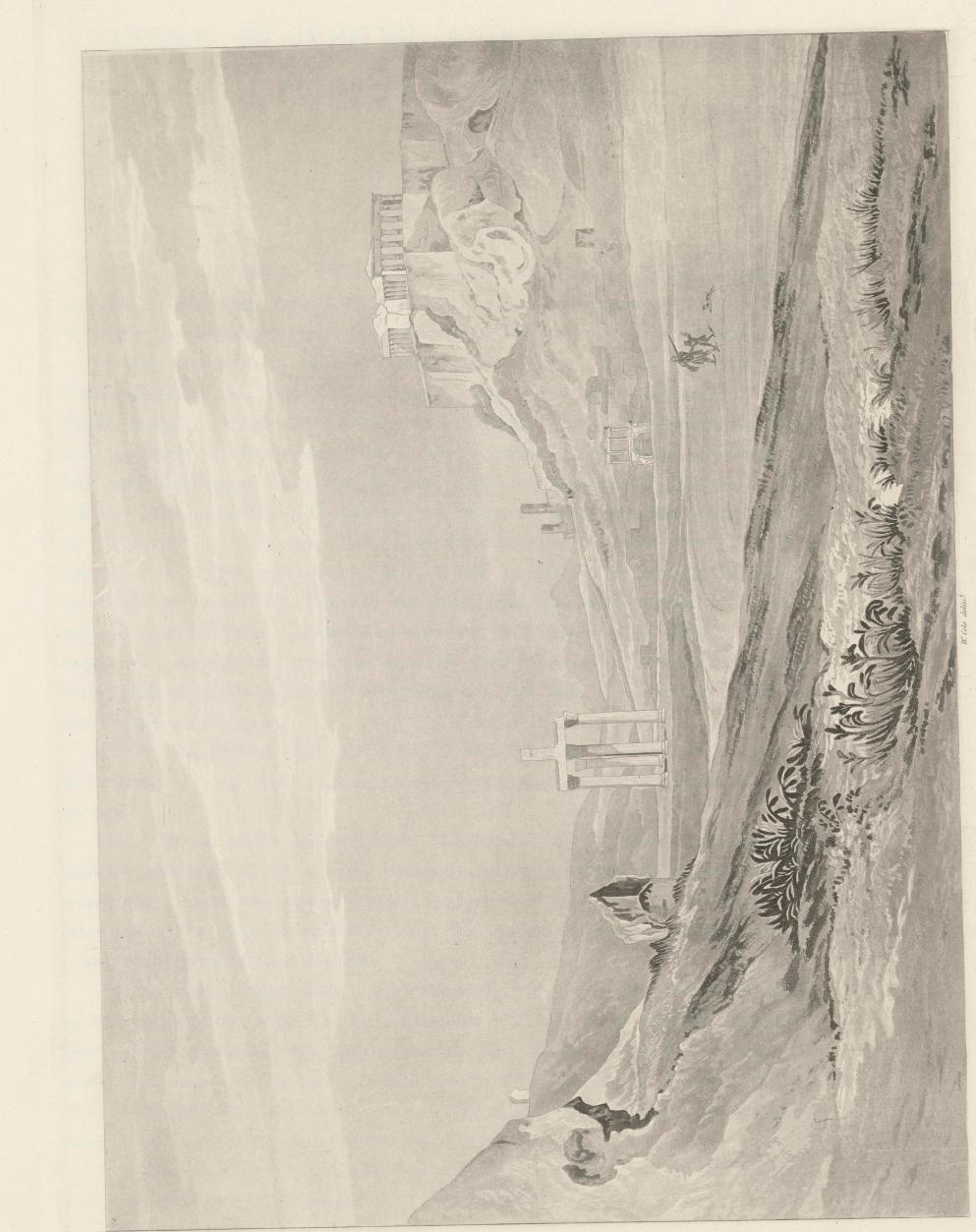
Within the Pandrosium was the olive-tree said to have been produced by Minerva, in her contest with Neptune, above mentioned.

These temples were rebuilt on the same spot where those stood that were burnt by Xerxes, which, doubtless, were of great antiquity, probably the most ancient in Athens.

The View is taken looking upon the front of the Erectheum. Five columns of the portico only remain, the shafts of which are mutilated, and the capitals defaced and broken. Of the Temple of Minerva the walls are all destroyed, and the two isolated columns mark the situation of the west side. Three, out of the six of the cariatides, still remain of the Temple of Pandrosos. The portico common to these two last temples is seen under the architrave of the portico of the Erectheum; but the entrance is choked up with broken pieces of marble and rubbish. The exquisite taste displayed in the design and execution of the ornaments of these temples, far surpasses any thing of the kind hitherto known or discovered.



VIEW OF THE TEMPLES OF ERECTHEUS & PANDROSUS.



TEMPLE OF JUPITER AND THE ACROPOLIS, FROM THE STADIUM, ATHENS.

London, Published for the Proprietor by Ackermann & C. August, 19985.

TEMPLE OF JUPITER, AND THE ACROPOLIS, FROM THE STADIUM,

ATHENS.

The Temple of Jupiter Olympus, at Athens, when entire, formed a complete example of the most sumptuous and stately of all the aspects of temples, which Vitruvius, in the first chapter of his third book, has enumerated and defined.

It was executed in white Pentelic marble. The columns, upwards of six feet in diameter and sixty feet in height, were fluted, and had beautiful Corinthian capitals. There were twenty in each flank of this magnificent building, and ten both in the portico and in the posticum. The front extended 171 feet, and the length from east to west measured upwards of 350 feet. The cell was surrounded by a double row of columns; and, from the account given by Pausanias, it contained a statue of Jupiter, made in ivory and gold, of a colossal size. The peribolus, or wall, which enclosed the consecrated ground in which the temple was built, as we learn from the same author, was half a mile in circumference. Temples, statues, and monuments were within this peribolus, and probably the wall was adorned with a peristyle, or continued colonnade, with porticoes and other ornaments, in such sort, that the bare wall did not in any part appear.

Of this stupendous work there still remain sixteen columns, with a part of the architrave; and the wing of the south-west angle of the peribolus is yet to be seen.

The View is taken looking upon the remains of the east front, from the ancient Stadium. A few broken masses of rubble, despoiled of the marble with which they were once covered, are all that mark the site of this celebrated Stadium, once the boast of Athens, where the youths of Greece exercised in the course and combated for the prize.

To the north of the temple, the Acropolis, rising from the plain, is crowned by the magnificent ruins of the Parthenon. The Arch of Adrian is seen in front of the modern town, situate at the foot of the Acropolis. Upon the south-west angle of the rock are still visible the ruins of the Theatre of Bacchus. The hill of the Museum rises to the south of the temple, and upon its summit are the remains of the monument of Philopappus.

The Ilissus runs between the Stadium and the plain, but it has scarcely water sufficient to wet the pebbles that form its bed.

ACROCORINTHUS,

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ACROCORINTHUS,

CORINTH.

THE city of Corinth is said to have been founded 1514 years before Christ, by Sisyphus, the son of Æolus, and grandfather of Ulysses. It is situate in the south part of the isthmus which joins the Peloponnesus to the Continent. As the genius of the Corinthians led them to commerce rather than martial exploits, their city became the finest in all Greece: it was adorned with the most sumptuous buildings—as temples, palaces, theatres, porticoes, &c., all enriched with a beautiful kind of column, which was called Corinthian, from this city. It was pillaged and burnt by the Romans, under their consul Mummius, A.c. 146. Corinth lay desolate until Julius Cæsar settled there a Roman colony, when, in removing the rubbish and digging, many valuables were found. They left no burying-place unexamined; and Rome, it is said, was filled with the furniture of the sepulchres of Corinth. Strabo was at Corinth soon after its restoration by the Romans, and describes the Acrocorinthus, and its surrounding wall, as including a circuit of nearly eleven miles. Upon the Acrocorinthus was erected the citadel. This fortress was so important a one, as to be styled by Philip of Macedon, " The Fetters of Greece." Corinth had flourished 217 years when it was visited by Pausanias. It had then a few antiquities, chiefly temples and statues, mostly about the Agora.

The Roman colony was destined to suffer the same calamity as the Greek city, and from a conqueror more terrible than Mummius—Alaric the Savage, and destroyer of Athens and all Greece.

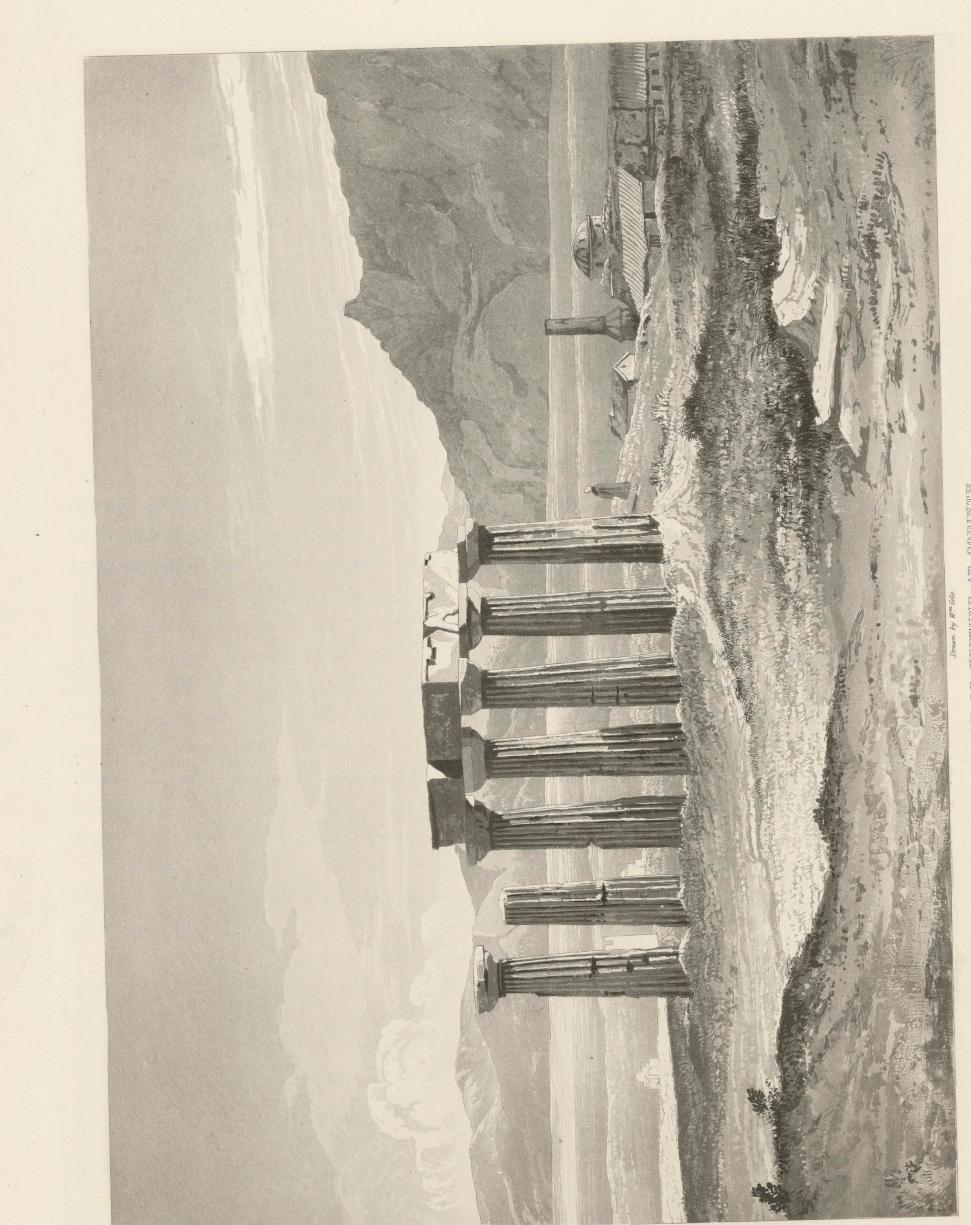
In a country harassed with frequent wars, as the Peloponnesus has since been, the Acrocorinthus has been a post of too great importance to be neglected; and since the destruction of the city by Alaric, the fortress has been subjected to many reverses and changes. During the late Greek revolution it was the scene of many exploits of daring enterprise. In 1833, when the new kingdom of Greece was established, the citadel was given up to the government of King Otho.

The View, looking upon the north face of the Acrocorinthus, is taken from a corn-field by the road leading to the ancient port of Corinth, formerly called Lechæum. The external fortifications of the citadel still remain, but the interior was filled with broken walls and shapeless masses of ruins. The ascent to the top of the Acrocorinthus is steep, and occupies more than an hour: the prospect enjoyed from the summit it is impossible to describe, and cannot be surpassed.

Under the trees in the foreground are seen the remains of the modern town: these trees formed a part of an extensive mulberry grove, used for rearing the silkworm, silk being, in former times, an article of considerable export from Corinth.



ACROCORINTHUS, CORINTH.



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TERMIPLE OF NEIPTINE AT CORRESPONDE.

TEMPLE OF NEPTUNE,

CORINTH.

These seven columns are the only existing monuments of the once celebrated and renowned city of Corinth! They formed a part of a temple said to have been of great antiquity, and built before architecture had received the improvements it afterwards did in the time of Pericles. The materials are of rough, porous stone; the shafts of the columns are each of one block only, and the whole has been covered with stucco. In the time of Stuart and Revet twelve columns were remaining; but the governor of the fortress had blown up five of them a short time before Dr. Clarke visited Corinth. In later times the town has been described as containing cypresses, amongst which towered the domes of mosques, with corn-fields intersected with gardens of orange and lemon-trees: these, however, have been all swept away, and but a few mud huts are seen scattered about, inhabited by a miserable and wretched peasantry.

The situation of the temple commands a beautiful view, looking upon the Gulf of Lepanto; and the mountains of Parnassus, Helicon, and Cithæron, are distinctly seen.

Byron has described these ruins, and the scenery around them, in several parts of his Siege of Corinth.

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